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MEN ON MISSION

North Carolina Baptists reaching the world for Christ

NORTH CAROLINA BAPTISTS ARE ON MISSION THROUGH N.C. BAPTIST MEN

Fall 1996

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MEN ON MISSION

On The Cover

Disaster relief, construction and medical/dental mission projects are just some of the many ways N.C. Baptists are sharing the gospel across our state and around the world through N.C. Baptist Men.

N.C. Baptist Men Staff

Richard Brunson, Mark Abernathy, Jimmy Huffman, Lisa Chilson, Lynn Tharrington, Lee Sadler, Fatima Roma, Mary Sue Smith, Kecia Morgan, Sandy Smith, Frank Starnes, Ed and Ann Kanoy

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FROM THE DIRECTOR

'The Walls Are Down . . . The Doors Are Wide Open'

Ephesians 2:14 — "For Christ himself has brought us peace by making the Jews and Gentiles one people. With his own body he broke down the wall that separated them and kept them enemies."

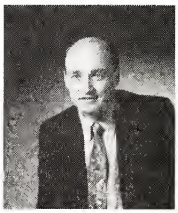
I am writing this report from Kiev, Ukraine. My wife, Lesley, and I (along with our three children) are spending the month of July serving as the N.C. Volunteer Coordinators for the N.C./Ukraine Partnership. We are living in a small apartment on the eighth floor of a typical Soviet-style apartment building. Life is not easy in this country, but we are learning a lot and we are enjoying the experience. There are several things that have really struck me since being here:

Ukrainian Baptists are people of great faith and joy who can teach us much about prayer and what it means to be a Christian.

(1) My Perspective: I take too much for granted. Mission trips help put life in perspective. We have been blessed and we are called to give that blessing away.

(2) The Ukrainian Christians: There are wonderful people here. Ukrainian Baptists have paid a price for their faith and they don't take it for granted. They are people of great faith and joy who can teach us much about prayer and what it means to be a Christian.

(3) The Need: There are many physical and spiritual needs of the people in Ukraine. Provisions for medical and dental care are terrible here, so there is a great need for medicines and medical/dental mission teams. There are about 1500 Ukrainian Baptist churches and about 400 of those are trying to build a building, so there is a great need for construction teams. Other types of assistance are also needed.



(4) The Opportunity: This verse, Ephesians 2:14, has been coming to mind while I have been here. Because of the work of Christ, the walls are down and the doors are wide open. You and your prayers are needed here.

Richard Brunson

Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine

MAURICE COOK, NCBM PRESIDENT

The young man boarded the plane in Atlanta for the nonstop flight to Boston. Anxiety and apprehension were in his eyes and facial expression. The reason for this soon became obvious as he remarked—in broken English—to the attendant that this was his first flight and that he was scared. The attendant tried to assure him that he need not be frightened and, furthermore, he would enjoy the flight. But she apparently sensed that her words were having very little effect and she quickly turned toward the cockpit. Soon the pilot appeared and announced, "I am the pilot," and then proceeded with words of assurance for the young man.

The plane lifted off and, after about 20 minutes, the pilot returned to check on his nervous passenger. This time he came with brochures describing the airplane and the airline's commitment to passenger safety. Apparently the pilot felt this was still insufficient and he made one more attempt to ease the passenger's anxiety by returning later to talk with him again. Now I was getting nervous, wondering if anyone was manning the airplane controls! This time the pilot brought with him a computer printout showing the names and length of service of the flight officers. He emphasized that the three officers had a total of 79 years of experience and concluded, "You are in good hands."

I leaned back in my seat and began to spiritualize what I had witnessed. The young international person on the plane represents all of us as we 'travel' on our pilgrimage. We become nervous, yes, scared at times on our journey through life as we face tests, trials, temptations, and many unknowns. We live in a world filled with risk and danger—job insecurity, health concerns, family instability—the list is almost endless. And there are the great worldwide problems of terrorism, strife, and hunger, to name just a few. We need and seek assurance that the Lord is with us and will sustain us through the myriad of problems we encounter.

We live in a world filled with risk and danger—job insecurity, health concerns, family instability—the list is almost endless.

Friends, family, church and others help in providing that assurance. But sooner or later we want to hear the Pilot Himself assure us. We plead:

"Jesus, Savior, pilot me over life's tempestuous sea; unknown waves before me roll, hiding rock and treacherous shoal; chart and compass come from Thee; Jesus, Savior, pilot me."

His response: ". . .In the world you shall have tribulation; but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." (John 16:33)

We welcome the Pilot's voice but we yearn even more for His presence. Again He assures us: "...I am with you always, even unto the end of the world" (Matt. 28:20); and

"I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there you may be also" (John 14:2–3).

And then there is the experience of the Pilot. It is far more than the 79 years of the three officers on the plane. In fact, His experience cannot be dated with a fixed number of years, it is ETERNAL. That is awesome!!! His qualifications for being the Pilot are documented many times in Scripture. My favorite selection describing the fullness of both His divine and human character is that penned by Paul in his letter to the Philippian Christians:

"Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God; but made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men. And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; and that ever tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." (Phil. 2:5–11)

Because of Who our Pilot is, and what He has done and continues to do for us, we can say and sing with great confidence:

"Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine. O what a foretaste of glory divine. . . ."

Colson To Be Featured At Baptist Men's Convention In Greensboro

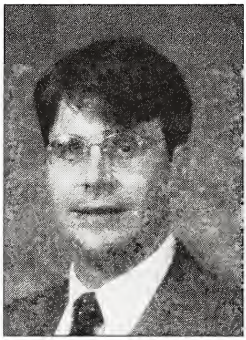
Chuck Colson, Founder and Chairman of the Board, Prison Fellowship International, and renowned author, will be the keynote speaker at the 1997 North Carolina Baptist Men's Convention, January 31–February 1, at First Church, Greensboro. Joining Colson will be Tom & Seus, who will present the Gospel through their semi-silent theatre ministry, and Taylor Field, director of Graffiti Ministry in New York.

The overnight meeting will open with the Friday evening session, January 31, at the church and conclude with the Saturday afternoon session. The prayer breakfast will be held on Saturday morning.

The meeting is open to all Baptist men and women, not just members of a church Brotherhood organization.

More details of this convention and a registration form will be included in the next issue of *Men On Mission.*

Chuck Colson



Taylor Field

Tom and Seus

"Unto the Least of These..."

THE MATTHEW 25 FUNDS

MISSION SUPPORT FUNDS FOR NORTH CAROLINA BAPTIST MEN'S MINISTRIES

"Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord when did we see you hungry and feed you...'"

They are called the Matthew 25 Funds and their purpose is to be a vital tool for enabling North Carolina Baptists to minister to people in need. You are invited to participate by giving of your financial resources.

"When did we see you sick..."

What Are the Matthew 25 Funds?

The Matthew 25 Funds consist of five different funds. Three of these are essentially reserve funds that can be used as needed for the Medical/Dental Bus, Disaster Relief or Special Ministries. The other two are permanent endowment funds for NCBM Missions and Ministry or Camp Scholarship Endowments. You can choose to give to one or more of these funds.

Who Do I Contact To Get Specific Information About These Five Funds Or To Make My Gift?

For specific information about these funds, contact the North Carolina Baptist Men office at (800) 395-5102, extension 323 or 325. A brochure and a videotape are available explaining each of the funds in more detail.

Gifts are tax deductible and should be made to: The North Carolina Baptist Foundation, Inc. For further information about making a gift and how to include the Matthew 25 Funds in your will and other estate plans, contact the Baptist Foundation at (800) 521–7334.

We will continue to reach out to this lost world around us. With your continued support and God's light, love, and grace, North Carolina Baptist Men will march on to minister to the least of these and, in so doing, touch the heart of God.

"...AND THE KING WILL ANSWER AND SAY TO THEM, 'I TELL YOU THE TRUTH, WHATEVER YOU DID FOR ONE OF THE LEAST OF THESE BROTHERS OF MINE, YOU DID FOR ME.'" Matthew 25:37-40 NIV

N.C. Baptist Men Offers Ways To Minister 'Back To Ministers'

In the near future, N.C. Baptist Men's office is going to offer a brochure that will help congregations minister to their church staff and families in tangible ways. The brochure will be called "50 Ways To Say Thanks" and will be available to anyone who would like to help their church minister to their ministers. Brotherhood directors will be encouraged to take the lead and make this a churchwide project. Pastors and their families are human and have the same hopes, dreams and feelings that laypeople and their families have. Many churches forget this and ministers end up feeling isolated and lonely. They need to be affirmed and encouraged for all they do. Some ways that churches have ministered to ministers are by giving the couple a gift certificate to a local restaurant and offering to baby-sit for the evening, having a celebration dinner/fellowship to say thank you for all they do each day, sending a note once a week to say thank you for the love and sacrifice they show to the church, and the list goes on. Call Lisa Chilson at (919) 467–5100 or (800) 395–5102, ext. 333 for a brochure or check the appropriate item on the back page. Be in prayer for your pastoral staff today, and thank God they are there for you.

Mission Statement

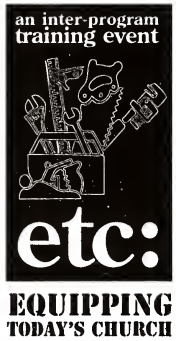
The goal of North Carolina Baptist Men is to help N.C. churches and associations involve their members (especially men and boys) in missions.

The objectives for accomplishing this goal are to:

- *enable and equip men and boys to be personally involved in mission activities*
- *encourage men and boys to identify and develop their personal ministries*
- *educate men and boys concerning mission opportunities*
- *teach men and boys the importance of praying for and giving to missions*
- *lead men and boys in developing in all areas and aspects of their lives to become mature, active and involved Christians.*

Equipping Today's Church Is A Valuable Training Opportunity

Wouldn't it be great if you could load all your church leaders in the van and take them to receive training at one time? You can! Equipping Today's Church is an interdepartmental training session offered by the Baptist State Convention for just such a purpose. Training will be offered by Sunday School, Church Music, Discipleship Training, Woman's Missionary Union, North Carolina Baptist Men, and the Office of Minister Support. Participants may choose which conferences they would like to attend. All conferences are geared especially to leaders in the local church. Two conferences will be offered: Ridgecrest Conference Center on September 6–7 and Caswell Conference Center on October 4–5.



For more information, check the appropriate item on the back page or call (919) 467–5100 or (800) 395–5102, ext. 202.

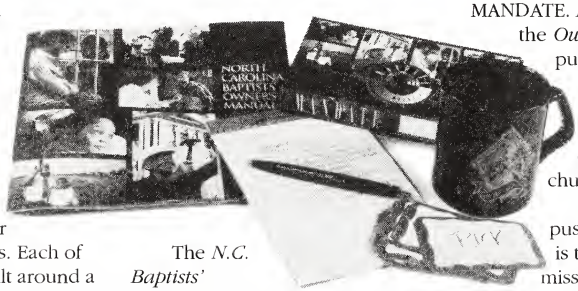
Don't forget

SEPTEMBER IS NORTH CAROLINA MISSIONS OFFERING MONTH

MANDATE And N.C. Baptists' Owner's Manual Available

The *N.C. Baptists' Owner's Manual* is designed to inform, inspire and involve. The *Owner's Manual* gives practical ideas on how to have an effective missions program in your church. It is filled with stories about N.C. Baptist men and women who are involved in a variety of missions projects. The *Owner's Manual* also provides 12 easy-to-use, ready-to-go monthly Baptist Men's or co-ed missions programs. Each of these 12 programs is built around a special video segment included on the MANDATE missions video magazine.

MANDATE, produced by the Baptist State Convention, is a monthly video program. MANDATE is mailed quarterly, and includes three monthly programs on each tape. MANDATE includes stories on state missions as well as foreign and home missions.



The *N.C. Baptists' Owner's Manual* provides suggestions for a good Baptist Men's meeting, including information and discussion questions to precede and follow the showing of the video segment.

The cost to subscribe to MANDATE is $20 per year (this is for all four video tapes). One copy of the *Owner's Manual* is included with each subscription to MANDATE. Additional copies of the *Owner's Manual* can be purchased for $4 per manual. Subscription information is below. Order a copy for each of the men in your church.

Our goal is not to push programs; our goal is to involve men in missions. This video and *Owner's Manual* is a new and different method, but we believe that it will be an excellent way to inform, inspire and involve the men and women of your church in doing missions.

MANDATE MISSIONS VIDEO MAGAZINE ORDER CARD

I wish to subscribe to the 1996–1997 MANDATE missions video magazine (12 monthly programs mailed quarterly and one *Owner's Manual*) for only $20 per year.

❑ New subscription ❑ Renewal of subscribtion

❑ I have included a check for $20 for the MANDATE subscription.

❑ Please bill me.

Please send me _____ additional copies of the *OWNER'S MANUAL* at $4 per copy. *(Includes shipping charges)*

❑ I have included a check for $_____ ❑ Please bill me.

Make check payable to: Baptist State Convention. Send to Public Relations, Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, P.O. Box 1107, Cary, NC 27512–1107

Please type or print:

Name_____

I am a member of _____ (church/city/association)

Leadership position_____

Daytime phone ( ) _____

Where would you like to receive MANDATE?

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NORTH CAROLINA BAPTIST MEN, PO BOX 1107, CARY, NC 27512–1107

Start A Men's Ministry Group

Tony Campolo, Christian author, speaker, and educator, describes his men's ministry meeting as the one meeting each week he schedules all his other commitments around. Former pro football player Norm Evans calls a men's ministry a primary source of encouragement and accountability.

Many churches are forming men's ministry groups. They are successfully operating as a vehicle to accomplish the following things:

Call and recall men to the task and opportunity of discipleship.

Call men to their responsibility to God, family, church, and community.

Offer men a non-threatening atmosphere in which to share needs, desires, hopes, and fears with a small, close-knit group.

Men are responding to the opportunity to form men's ministry groups because within these groups their Christian pilgrimage is renewed and revitalized. These groups also offer Christian men the opportunity to come together in a service not offered within traditional church structures and curriculum.

How Does It Work?

Between three and seven men gather on a weekly basis to pray, study, talk about their experiences from the preceding week, and plan for the upcoming week.

During each meeting, one person is designated as leader. He leads the group through a series of opening words, prayer concerns, a study or devotional time, and a closing prayer. One hour is adequate time for the meeting.

In order to add structure early in the life of a men's ministry group, it may be helpful to do a book study that encourages all men to participate, such as Seven Promises of a Promise Keeper (Focus on the Family). A chapter-a-week study of this kind of book builds relations and trust and develops Christian community in the group.

How Do We Implement A Men's Ministry Group At Our Church?

Hold a Baptist Men's breakfast at your church and devote a portion of the meeting to a discussion about starting a men's ministry. This is an excellent way to encourage interest.

Determine the time and place best suited to the men's schedules. A weekly meeting is preferable. Many times, after the first group has been established for awhile, additional groups will form. When other men see what a positive experience a men's ministry group is, they will want to join a group or form another one.

When Should We Start?

Start a men's ministry group or groups now. This is a powerful ministry opportunity just waiting to happen.

Additional Resources For Men's Ministry Groups:

- *The Power of a Promise Kept,* Gregg Lewis, Focus on the Family
- *Strategies for a Successful Marriage: A Study Guide for Men,* E. Glenn Wagner, NavPress
- *Brothers! Calling Men into Vital Relationships,* Geoff Gorsuch and Dan Schaffer, Promise Keepers,
- *What Makes a Man?* (Book and study guide), Bill McCartney, NavPress
- *Celebration of Discipleship,* Richard Foster, Harper & Row
- *The Hidden Value of a Man,* Gary Smalley and John Trent, Focus on the Family
- *The Man in the Mirror,* Patrick Morley, Wolgemuth and Hyatt
- *The Blessing,* Gary Smalley and John Trent, Tyndale
- *Promise Builders (Study series),* Bob Horner, Ron Ralston and David Sunde, Promise Keepers
- *Fathers and Sons,* Jack and Jerry Schreur, Victor
- *The Home Field Advantage,* Ken Ruettgers with Dave Branon. Mulnomah Books
- *Tender Warrior,* Stu Weber, Mulnoma Books
- *Moving Beyond Belief,* The Gathering/USA, Thomas Nelson Publishers
- *Ordering Your Private World,* Gordon MacDonald (Thomas Nelson Publishers).

See Wake Forest University Day Is November 16

Each year Wake Forest University sets aside a block of football tickets for "Church Day." The event is sponsored by North Carolina Baptist Men and the Athletic Department of Wake Forest University. This year, "Church Day" will feature the Wake Forest/Duke football game on Saturday, November 16. Baptist Men will have tickets available on a first-come, first-serve basis. The deadline to receive ticket orders is Friday, November 1. The cost is $11 per person (includes program, box lunch, and game ticket) plus $3 per order handling fee. Tickets will be mailed around October 25. There will be no refunds.

The program begins at 10:00 a.m. with Ron Coder, guest speaker and former pro football player with the Seattle Seahawks. Lunch will be at 12 noon, and the game at 1:00 p.m.

To order tickets, please use the form on the back page.

Ron Coder, former pro football player with St. Louis and Seattle, to speak.

They Gave To Help A Hurting World

Sandy and Ann Smith of Greensboro recently donated rental property valued at more than $100,000 to a trust through the Baptist Foundation, equally divided between maintenance and renovation of Mundo Vista and Baptist Men's ministries.

Sandy Smith says, "Ann and I have been involved in missions both in the mission organizations in our youth and as adults. We have sensed a strong calling to be on mission 'as we go' through life. The North Carolina Baptist Foundation has provided a vehicle, the charitable remainder trust, through which we can participate in missions after our life is complete here on earth. By contributing to NCBM and N.C. WMU, we know the funds will be placed in the hands of those who have a strong calling to reach out to young people and adults who need to hear the message of Jesus Christ—to reach out to those in need, to those who are imprisoned socially and mentally, to a hurting world—to bring a message of hope and love. It is our prayer that this gift will help to meet some of these needs."

The care, concern, and compassion for others that Sandy and Ann have expressed in Jesus' name through their gift and through their personal involvement on a weekly basis is greatly appreciated.

Sandy and Ann Smith

Bring In The New Year At *'ExAlt'*!

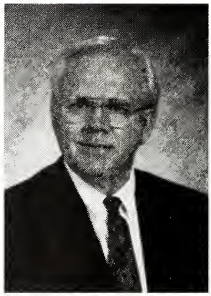
The North Carolina Baptist Assembly at Fort Caswell will host *ExAlt*, a New Year's Eve Celebration, December 31, 1996–January 1, 1997. The overnight celebration promises the best in Christian inspiration, praise, and worship.

Randy Kilby, president of Fruitland Bible Institute, and Buddy Freeman, dean of admissions at Gardner-Webb University, will speak during the weekend. Musicians Dana Joy and Russel Johnson will lead contemporary praise songs as well as old favorites.

Robbie Mustoe of Lumberton will return with another action-packed program for teenagers, including games, music, and other surprises.

There'll be plenty of music, fun, and laughter for people of all ages. For more information, contact the Assembly at (910) 278–9501.

Randy Kilby



Buddy Freeman

Baptist Men Hats; Baptist Men, Royal Ambassador And Challengers T-Shirts Available

Camel color T-shirts with the NCBM logo are available for $6 each plus $2 shipping per order. The sizes available are: adult large, adult x-large, adult xx-large.

The new Royal Ambassador (grades 1–6) T-shirts are an attractive light blue and feature the Royal Ambassador logo in a colorful design. The RA motto and "North Carolina" are also prominently displayed. The cost is $6 each plus $2 shipping per order. The sizes available are: boys 14–16, adult small, adult medium, adult large, adult extra large.

Royal Ambassador shirts in previous designs have been reduced to $4 each plus $2 shipping per order.

Challengers (grades 7–12) T-shirts are available in the ashe color for $6 each plus $2 shipping per order. The sizes available are: adult small, adult medium, adult large, and adult extra large.

NCBM hats with the embroidered "Serve in Christ's Spirit" logo are available in black, teal, forest green, and burgundy.

Please use the form on the back page to place your order.

Layman Of The Year Announced

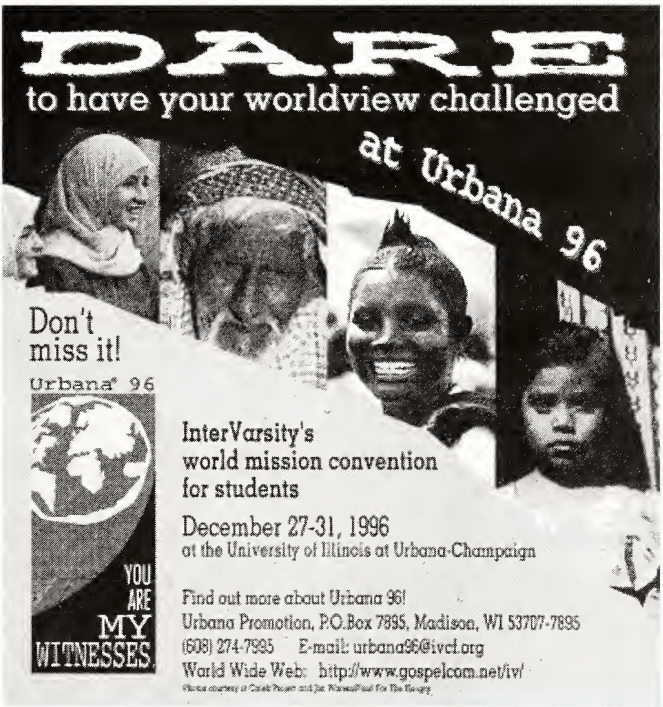
John Freeman of Raleigh was named Layman of the Year during the North Carolina Baptist Men's Convention in High Point. He has been a faithful supporter of Baptist Men on the state level for about 25 years. He has served as NCBM recording secretary for 13 years; first term 1980–1982; second term, 1986 to present. This includes the official recording of the minutes of all NCBM subcommittees as well as Board Meetings and Men's Conventions. John has served as a member of the NCBM Nominating Committee, Constitution Committee, and Men's Convention Program Committee. He is also a Brotherhood training specialist and assists by leading several workshops each year.

John has served several years as the Raleigh Associational Brotherhood director. He is a faithful member of Tabernacle Church in Raleigh where he serves as Brotherhood director/Baptist Men's president, deacon, choir member, church clerk, and a member of the church's stewardship promotion committee.

John's real compassion and concern for people led him to begin a program to feed homeless people on Sunday afternoons. He is also a regular volunteer at the Overflow Shelter in Raleigh.

John and his wife, Catherine, have two sons. He is an instructor at N.C. State University.

Thank you, John, for your dedication and commitment as you serve in Christ's spirit.


DARE
to have your worldview challenged
at Urbana 96
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Urbana 96
YOU ARE MY WITNESSES
InterVarsity's world mission convention for students
December 27-31, 1996
at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
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Urbana Promotion, P.O.Box 7895, Madison, WI 53707-7895
(608) 274-7995 E-mail: urbana96@ivcf.org
World Wide Web: http://www.gospelcom.net/iv/

Owner's Manual/ Missions Today Available for the Visually Impaired

Inspirational stories from *N.C. Baptists' Owner's Manual* and from *Missions Today,* the SBC Brotherhood Commission's monthly magazine for Baptist Men, are available on audio cassette tape for the visually impaired. Bill Law, NCBM at large board member, does a great job as the narrator each month. In addition, UPCLOSE, produced by Public Relations, Baptist State Convention, is also included.

If you know visually impaired persons who would be interested in receiving this monthly cassette free of charge, please send their names and addresses to North Carolina Baptist Men, P.O. Box 1107, Cary, NC 27512–1107.

'Operation Inasmuch' Blitzes Fayetteville, Cumberland County

Nothing makes Christians come alive the way hands-on mission work does. The members of Snyder Memorial Church in Fayetteville, N.C., recognize the challenges and opportunities available to Christians when they put their hands to doing God's work.

Living by their vision statement which reads in part: "...Snyder Memorial Baptist Church will be a mission outpost in Fayetteville and Cumberland County equipping and empowering all our members as missionaries to minister by word and by deed to all persons,..." the members of Snyder Memorial participate in a bi-annual event called "Operation Inasmuch." Twice a year the Snyder members blitz Fayetteville and Cumberland County performing tasks at up to 50 locations. The tasks include roofing, landscaping, building wheelchair ramps, sewing projects, visiting shut-ins, serving Love Lunches at the Salvation Army, sorting food and clothes at local missions, and holding Backyard Bible Clubs.

On March 16, 1996, 457 Snyder Memorial missionaries performed 2,464.5 man hours of the Lord's work in one day.

Many heart-warming stories have been told. One lady was so excited about the repairs being made on her home, she was taking neighbors on tours through her house before Snyder folks had time to finish. The children at the Bonnie Doone Backyard Bible Club were so starved for adult male attention they couldn't stop climbing on the men who went to tell them about Jesus. At Spring Lake Mission, the children wanted to know why they couldn't have Backyard Bible Clubs more often! One roof repair project was in the Campbell Terrace neighborhood just two blocks from the site of a senseless double murder that occurred in the winter. Snyder folks felt welcomed as they heard a young man yell back to his concerned mother, "It's okay Mama; it's a church group!" The Snyder missionaries gave a lady, who was born without complete limbs, the ability to go outside without being carried when they added a porch and wheelchair ramp to her home. Now she can go all the way to the sidewalk by herself.

Is that the whole story? No, of course not. Work, in and of itself, does not satisfy the soul. The by-product of being about the Lord's work is spiritual growth. And it is that spiritual growth which overcomes the physical tiredness and overwhelms the heart, making Christians more alive than ever. Alive for Christ!

In March of 1997, Baptist Men and Snyder Memorial will sponsor a "Hands-on Volunteer Workshop." This will be a weekend of training on how to get your church involved in local missions and actually do some hands-on missions projects with Snyder's congregation. Deadline will be the first part of December. There is a limit of two persons per church. There is also a limit of the total number of people to participate. For more details, please call Lisa Chilson in the N.C. Baptist Men's office at (800) 395–5102 or (919) 467–5100, ext. 333.

AGRICULTURAL MISSIONS

Demo Farm Field Day Is September 14

The NCBM Demonstration Farm in Buies Creek, under the capable management of Gene Hickman, showcases technologies and food crops from around the world. Seed production at the farm, in partnership with ECHO, assures missionaries and development workers of continued good supplies. Baptist men and boys and their friends and families are invited to share this time of information, food, and fellowship with us, beginning at noon. The cost is $5 per person for lunch. For more details or to register, please check the appropriate item on the back page.

I write these thoughts while aboard a ferry on the Visayan Sea, passing from one Filipino island to another. Once again this year, I am grateful for the unique ministries of N.C. Baptist Men. Problems of poverty and disease cannot be solved simply by spending money and that is easily observed here. By contrast, N.C. Baptist men and boys have many opportunities for personal involvement in missions that make a real difference for those in need at home and abroad. This incarnational ministry follows the pattern Jesus taught and demonstrated.

Recent studies by the World Bank and other development agencies reveal that the number of people experiencing absolute poverty (not having enough to eat) has passed one billion worldwide and is increasing rapidly. More than 80 percent of these people are found in rural communities. Your prayer and participation with us in Agricultural Missions has never been more important.

Stephen Hughes
State Ag Missions Coordinator
P.O. Box 65
Burgaw, N.C. 28425
(910) 259-5925

LAY REVIVAL

Why Do I Witness?

BY CHARLIE BUSTLE, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, LAY WITNESSING FOUNDATION, ASHEVILLE

When approached to write an article for this paper and trying to decide just what I might write about, I stopped and asked myself the question—"Charlie, just why do you witness?"

In trying to answer myself, I thought about the fact that it is scriptural. In Matthew 28:19–20, Jesus Himself instructs us to go and to teach. Luke 16:27–28 relays a plea to us, from a person that is experiencing the very depths of hell itself, that we go and testify to his brothers so that they may not come to be with him in that awful place. Those are good scriptural reasons, *but*—

thinking further, I remember some of my own personal witnessing experiences. In Ohio, during a Lay Revival, a witnessing partner and I approached a lady's home only to be refused an audience. The following afternoon, she went to meet God. It blessed my heart to know that we had given her an opportunity to testify to her salvation or perhaps accept Christ before going to meet God. When visiting my own sister, who was suffering from terminal cancer, and not knowing just what her relationship to God really was, I asked her. She shared a beautiful testimony with me about her commitment to the Lord and about how she was serving Him through her church. I can't describe to you just how heart-warming this experience really was. While driving home with my wife from an out-of-town trip, we were impressed to stop at a nursing facility in Morganton to visit with my wife's elderly uncle. Upon asking, we found that he had no close personal relationship with the Lord. He prayed to receive Christ during this visit. Within a few weeks, he went to meet God. Don't you think I really "busted my buttons" to be able to share with his daughter and other members of his family, as well as the minister conducting the funeral, this experience of having been present when our relative accepted Christ? These are all heart-warming experiences and there are others.

Why do I witness? I guess I'm just selfish. Witnessing makes me "feel gooder all over more than anything else!"

To receive information about scheduling a Lay Revival in your church, check the appropriate item on the back page.

Mike Smith
State Lay Revival Coordinator
22 Ballantree Drive
Asheville, N.C. 28803
(704) 274-4261

AVIATION MISSIONS

Aviation Missions Responds To First Request

On June 13, we received our first Aviation Ministry request. A young boy and his family needed to travel to a hospital in Cleveland for specialized diagnosis. Our ministry is new, and we are just getting set up, so we didn't think we were ready to help with transportation yet. However, the first pilot on our aviation roster that we called was available and agreed to fly the family there in his plane. Unfortunately, bad weather at the destination airport delayed and ultimately prevented the trip. We didn't get to help this time, but we put forth a good effort for our first ministry request.

We have a lot of organizing and structuring to do in setting up our new ministry. We need to build a good resource of pilots, assist personnel, and available airplanes. You can help us by getting the word out about this new NCBM Ministry to men in your church and association who have an interest in aviation.

We just completed a tour of JAARS (Jungle Aviation And Radio Service) in Waxhaw, N.C.. They hold an open house the first Saturday of each month and a large crowd was there for the tour. Six people from our ministry were there including two new members, and most brought groups from their churches with them. The kids especially loved the tour and plane rides. Everyone enjoyed the demonstration of the "Helio Courier" plane, used by JAARS to transport members of Wycliff Bible Translators to jungle areas from where normal planes couldn't land or take off.

We hope to familiarize ourselves with as many aviation style ministries around us as we can, to learn what they do and how they operate.

Other dates for this year include:

- August 3 — We will meet at Piedmont Bible College's Missionary Aviation Institute in Mocksville, N.C..
- September 13–14 — Regional NCBM Board meeting at Campbell University
- September 27–28 — Father/Daughter Fly-In at Brunswick County Airport near Fort Caswell
- November 1–2 — Father/Son Fly-In at Brunswick County Airport near Fort Caswell

Bob Foy
State Aviation Coordinator
2323 The Plaza
Charlotte, N.C. 28507
(704) 376-0824 work,
(704) 664-6422 home

FAMILY FOUNDATIONS

Legacy Builders Conference Produces Good Fruit

Below is an excerpt from a letter written by a conference attendee:

"When Brother Jim gave us the assignment last night to write "letters of blessing" to our family members, I groaned inside. You see, I hate writing letters. I always have disliked that; it's like taking castor oil! However, when I sat down last night and began to write to my wife of 21 years and my 18-year-old daughter and 17-year-old son, it was as if God opened up the floodgate of my heart. The feelings and thoughts that I had kept inside came pouring out. I didn't think I'd ever get to bed! What a blessing that experience was for me, in fact I believe it was the spiritual highlight of my weekend here!"

Could your men's group benefit from a Legacy Builder's Conference?

Father-Son Relationships Strengthened

This year many Baptist Men enjoyed Camp Caraway's Father-Son Retreat. Dads and interested men found time in their busy schedules to spend quality time with their sons and other boys. One father said, "I'll remember this meaningful time with my son, forever." Maybe you should plan on going with your son, grandson, or needy boy next year.

Dennie Crowder
State Family Foundations Coordinator
9705 Stony Hill Lane
Charlotte, N.C. 28277
(704) 541-7760

Election Time = Prayer Time + Action

With the election coming up it's time for Christians to pray and work. Give God thanks for living in a free country. Pray for God's guidance in your life and that of our country. Ask God to give wisdom to the ones He calls to public office. Oh yes, don't forget to vote.

DISASTER RELIEF

Volunteers Respond To Hurricane Bertha

Two North Carolina Disaster Relief Feeding Units responded to the victims of Hurricane Bertha. The command post for the North Carolina Unit 1 and the South Carolina Unit were located at Hampstead High School, Hampstead, N.C. North Carolina Unit 2 was stationed at the Cape Carteret Baptist Church, Cape Carteret, N.C.

All units ceased feeding operations with lunch on July 20. Southern Baptist's total meal count in response to Hurricane Bertha was 84,200.

Clean-up crews have worked in the Atlantic, Brunswick, New River, and Wilmington Associations. Surf City Church received extensive damage to the roof and siding. Volunteers will replace the entire roof and damaged siding over the next few weeks.

The response from the local church groups and people all over the state to assist these victims was fantastic! A fund has been established to receive donations to assist them further. If you would like to contribute, please send your check marked for Disaster Relief and payable to N.C. Baptist Men, P.O. Box 1107, Cary, N.C. 27512.

North Carolina Baptist Men would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their prayers and other forms of support during the preparation for and response to Hurricane Bertha.

Paul Wilson
State Disaster Relief Coordinator
P. O. Box 2763
Salisbury, N.C. 28145
(704) 637-6735

On behalf of the entire staff at the North Carolina Baptist Assembly (Caswell), I would like to express sincere appreciation to all who responded in the aftermath of Hurricane Bertha. Thank you so much for the support that you have given.

Rick Holbrook, director,
N.C. Baptist Assembly (Caswell)

LAY RENEWAL

Blessings Received At Renewal Weekend

A pastor's testimony of the blessings of a Renewal Weekend in his church.

"I would like to share with you our joy and the many wonderful blessings that we have received as a result of Lay Renewal. First, we were blessed before our weekend began by the preparation for our Lay Renewal Weekend through our prayer groups, Bible studies, work committees, and leadership teams. Second, we were blessed by your team of godly-inspired people who came and shared from their hearts, bearing their souls, and becoming vulnerable with us. Their witness was astonishing. Third, we were blessed by the counseling our people received and the number of 'divine appointments' that were arranged. Our people felt ministered to by their 'new family,' the Lay Renewal team. Finally, we are blessed, because God used this spiritual time to speak to so many of our members and to two in particular who as a result of our time together became new members by profession of Christ as their Savior . Thank you for your obedience to Christ. We are blessed!"

Terry Farmer, pastor
First Church, Mebane

If you would like to receive additional information about scheduling a Lay Renewal Weekend in your church, check the appropriate item on the back page.

Cameron Norris
State Lay Renewal Coordinator
3471 Bassett St., SW
Shallotte, N.C. 28459
(910) 754-4839

Give Time To Homeland Mission Projects

When God calls us to be one of his children, He gives us spiritual gifts which are needed to make the Christian church what it should be. God asks us to tithe not only our money but also our time. What better way can Baptist men tithe their time than for mission projects in North Carolina. There are many opportunities to help build churches for other congregations through Homeland Mission Projects.

Pittsboro Church, Hispanic Mission, Pittsboro

A 5,450-square foot brick/frame building is nearing completion of rough-in. We need help with exterior finish work and hanging and finishing sheetrock. We hope to be finished by late fall. Please come and help us if you possibly can. Please contact Bill Poindexter at (919) 542–3819.

Main Street Church, China Grove

Larry Beavers, pastor, fell off the roof of this building in April and broke his hip. He has been slow in healing but he remains excited about getting this building completed. They need help with interior finish work, floor covering, and finishing electrical, plumbing, and HVAC. If you are in the area, please schedule a time you can help finish this building. You should contact Larry Beavers at (704) 857–0871 (home) or (704) 855–3274 (church).

Friendship Church, Greensboro

This 3,000-square foot building was to be framed in July. Help is needed for electrical rough-in, brickwork, and hanging and finishing sheetrock. Things have moved slowly since the project began in April 1996, but Barry Neely in the Piedmont Association office sees progress as the framing begins. If you can help, please call Barry Neely at (910) 275–7651.

Voice of Hope Hispanic Church, Charlotte

This church was built by the Hearts and Hammers group from Independence Hill Church. Framing started on June 29, 1996, and the congregation held their first service in the building on July 7, 1996. Thank you to Hearts and Hammers for a job well done. Alton Stewart at (704) 875–1251 directed the work on this project.

Community Missionary Church, Havelock

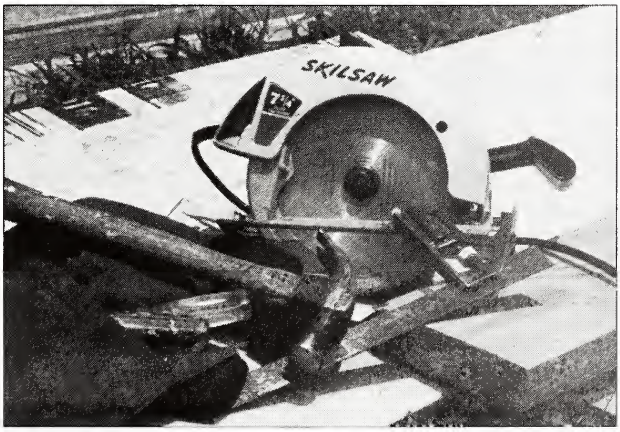
This project has been an undertaking of the Atlantic Association. Many volunteers from the Havelock area have helped with this project. The congregation hopes to move into the building in September. They need help in final grading and paving of the parking lot. The paving must be completed to meet the planning and zoning requirements. If you can help finish this project call Keith Hamilton at (919) 447–4593 (office) or (919) 240–1663 (home).

Camp Mundo Vista, Asheboro

Work will start again this fall to update and winterize the cabins at the GA camp. Volunteers are needed for all kinds of work on this project. N.C. Baptist Men are working with the WMU to get this camp modernized, so it can be used on a year-round basis. Bob Wainwright, retired director of missions, from the Flat River Association in Oxford, is now working on this project. He is very busy rounding up volunteers to move this project along more rapidly. When you can help, call Bob Navey at (910) 629–4213.

N.C. Baptist Assembly (Caswell)

Work on refurbishing the buildings at N.C. Baptist Assembly (Caswell) will continue through this winter. This provides an excellent opportunity for your Baptist Men's group to gather and work in a very pleasant setting at the beach. The people at Caswell will house you free, if you work, and will feed you bountifully for a very reasonable fee. Why don't you join David Lloyd and help with the work at Caswell this fall and winter? When you can help, contact David Lloyd, associate director, N.C. Baptist Assembly, 100 Caswell Beach Road, Oak Island, N.C. 28465, (910) 278–9501.



Bill Poindexter
State Homeland Missions Coordinator
P.O. Box 553
Pittsboro, N.C. 27312
(919) 542–3810

Prayer Is Important To Christians

I remember distinctly many years ago my being asked to pray a closing prayer in the evening service at the time I was baptized. I recall the fright I felt and excusing myself from giving it. You see, even though I was baptized, I still had no relationship with the Lord at that time, and like the disciples, I did not know how to pray. It was after I came to have a personal relationship with the Lord that I felt the call to converse with my heavenly Father. My prayer life has not always been what it should be, but I find a renewed desire to talk with the Lord as I meditate upon His Word.

Why was Jesus able to do what he did? Because he was faithful to talk with the Father. If we fail to pray, we are setting ourselves up to fall.

Jesus taught us that when we pray we should pray in confidence, with boldness and persistence, and with faith that God is going to answer! As we pray, let us do so making definite requests, asking according to the will of God. Too often we generalize our requests and many times we just do not ask at all. I have sought to be more specific in my prayers and, as I do, I have found His power in the answers He brings. Also, in His answers, I have found courage and strength, love, and peace, as well as wisdom and knowledge.

Because I believe prayer to be so important in the life of a Christian, I have been a part of North Carolina Baptist Men's Prayer Support Ministry almost from the beginning. As a participant in this ministry, let me encourage you to be a part of the upcoming Prayer Emphasis Weekend at Caraway on October 18–19. If your prayer life has grown stale and you need a lift and encouragement, come and you will not be disappointed.

Jesse Moye
Region 2, Prayer Support Leader

Prayer Training Event At Caraway

Want to do more to reach out to your community for Christ? The Prayer Ministry of N.C. Baptist Men will be sponsoring a weekend on "Prayer Walking" October 18–19 at Caraway in Asheboro. Led by Randy Sprinkle, director of the International Prayer Office for the Foreign Mission Board, this two-day training event will equip you to be a prayer walker as well as train others and lead your church in this vital ministry. All pastors, Baptist men, and their wives are invited.

The weekend will include a time of special music and worship and a wrap-up session on prayer with Ruby Fulbright, a well-known speaker and prayer warrior from Greenville. Your registration, which includes seminar materials, Saturday lunch, and lodging, is only $45 per person. Registration deadline is September 15th. For more information or to register, please call the Baptist Men's office at (800) 395–5102 or (919) 467–5100, ext. 342.

Pray For Unreached People Groups

Pray for the Tajik (taa [as in "cat"] jeek) people group. There are 3,300,000 Tajik people. Most of these people live in Tajikistan (taa [as in "cat"] jeek-ee-stan) and Afghanistan (aff-gan-ee-stan). Of all the Tajik people, there are only 320 Christians. Pray that the Tajik people will come to know of God's love for them as revealed in Jesus Christ.

Pray for the Bengali people group. There are 68 million Bengali people. Most of these people live in Bangladesh and India. Of all the Bengali people, there are only 300,000 Christians. Pray that the Bengali people will come to know of God's love for them as revealed in Jesus Christ.

Pray for the Buginese people group. There are 4.7 million Bugis. Most of these people live in Indonesia. Of all the Bugis, there are only 400 Christians. Pray that the Bugis will come to know of God's love for them as revealed in Jesus Christ.

Pray for the Gurung people group. There are 360,000 Gurkha. Most of these people live in Nepal. Of all the Gurkha, there are only 60 Christians. Pray that the Gurkha will come to know of God's love for them as revealed in Jesus Christ.

For more information on these or other World A people groups, contact Cathy Ollis at The World A Resource Center, School of Divinity, Gardner-Webb University, Boiling Springs,N.C. 28017. The phone number is (704) 434–4656.

Ed Couch
State Prayer Support Coordinator
3905 Page Road
Morrisville, N.C. 27560
(919) 544–7014

India Trip Is Simply . . . 'Awesome'

How does one describe in a few short words a mountain top experience like camping at 13,000 thousand feet, doing medical work in a primitive situation, and sharing the gospel with people who have never heard the name of Jesus before?

This is what I asked our team to do on the last night of our devotional meetings while trekking in Northern India in the Himalayas. Each team member was to pick one word that best summarized his or her feelings about what we accomplished. Many thought that this was an unfair assignment as there were just too many things that happened to use only one word. However, all were willing to try. Words that were used included "fulfilling", "challenging", "helpful", "love", but everyone agreed with the word my 14-year-old son, Aaron, used—"AWESOME".

The Ladakh Medical Projects, launched in 1992 as a joint effort of NCBM, Cooperative Services International (CSI), and Cooperative Outreach of India (COI), will by the end of this summer have sent 10 medical teams to this area of Northern India. The goal of our teams has been to relieve human suffering where possible through medical care and to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

What makes this area of Ladakh so special? The Ladakh range is a subsection of the Great Himalayas range, and the people group who live there are called Ladakhis (La-DOC-ees). Their traditions and way of life have probably been about the same for 1000 years. This is an extremely strong Buddhist area particularly in the eastern part near China.

This area is unique geographically. Described as a high altitude desert, yet in most areas there is extremely heavy snowfall in the winter, and natives are virtually snowed in for nine months of the year. Their villages exist at some of the highest altitudes in the world where organized communities survive. This area contains the highest maintained, paved road in the world and the highest post office in the world.

The medical work in these situations is fascinating, challenging, and extremely rewarding. People ask us what were the most common diseases we saw. As in the United States, one of the most common problems was plain old arthritis. Due to the mountains and the way the people squat to work, they all wear their knees out very early. We saw many common eye and ear problems and most of the everyday maladies one might see in a doctor's office. However, we also saw conditions one would not see commonly in the United States. Malnutrition, kwashiorkor, parasites of every description, very large untreated skin cancers, and birth defects that defy description. Some patients we were able to cure, some we could offer comfort but no cure, but all were offered care in Jesus' name.

Our lone dentist was kept very busy with the severe gum and tooth problems we saw. Walter Sandusky, a miraculously energetic 72-year-old dentist from Memphis, was remarkable for what he could accomplish in the field. At each clinic he took out anywhere from 50-80 teeth. Walter could see them in makeshift rooms, tents, open fields, or backed up against a rock wall in open pasture. He always provided the same high quality medical care no matter what the circumstance and delighted in telling them we were there in Jesus' name. Walter also served as our team leader and was inspirational as a role model and faithful servant of the Lord.

Each of these medical teams to Ladakh have had unique and special experiences. We were blessed to have a wonderful crew working with us. These Ladakhi nationals did our cooking, helped lead us and our ponies on the trail, and translated for us. From this crew came the highlights of our trip.

Tsering, one of our most

proficient translators, provided us with a glimpse of how hearing God's Word can change a person's heart. We used the "power band" to tell the gospel story. If you have not seen this it is a leather bracelet with colored beads. Each color represents a different aspect of the salvation story. It is a simple and effective way to tell the gospel in an easy to remember way. The children and adults delight to wear the bracelet, and the hope is that they will remember the gospel story. Usually we would tell the story and Tsering would translate for us. Many children prayed to accept Jesus as their Savior. How many truly understood? We don't know for in India it is not hard to throw another god in with what you believe and miss the uniqueness of Christ. But, Tsering understood! One day I asked the children if they believed Jesus was real and not just a nice story. They said they believed and prayed. Then Tsering, of his own free will, with no pressure or coercion said he believed, too. He wanted Jesus in his heart and to be his Lord. Our jaws dropped in amazement as the obvious became clear to us. Tsering simply hearing the story as he translated, the Holy Spirit had made the message clear to him. Our hearts soared with delight to know that a new soul was added to the flock. And the children he translated the story to? We hope that their prayer was genuine. We may never know. Follow-up work is clearly needed.

Dorjay was also a reliable helper and did some translation but mostly assisted Walter with dental equipment and procedures. He first accompanied a team with Walter in 1993, and the seeds were planted. This trip he continued to ask more questions and worked even closer with Walter. It was clear that the Lord was moving his heart. Walter and Ramesh Landge, our COI leader, found time to talk with him one morning, and he accepted Jesus into his heart. He had made a prayer stone with the message "Jesus is Lord" carved into it for Walter as a gift. He stated that indeed he believed this

message and asked Jesus into his heart. Several days later we were crossing one of our highest mountain passes. At the top was the Buddhist prayer tower as always marking the spot. We decided to build a stone cross next to it that would be there for a long time, causing people to wonder what does this mean? It seemed like a great opportunity to take pictures. It was then that Dorjay felt he should tell the group about his decision. As he shared with us his new-found faith and the fact that he knew Jesus is Lord and wanted Jesus in his heart, two doves came, as if from nowhere, to fly through the pass right in front of our group for all to see. Now I don't believe much in signs—being a doctor and scientist and all—but when the Holy Spirit smacks you in the face with something this obvious you can't help but feel the presence of the Lord.

Has the Lord asked you to go somewhere? Have any of the stories that you have read in *Commission Magazine*, *Biblical Recorder*, or other Christian publications made you feel like there is a job for you somewhere? If so, then GO! These short or long-term trips are life-changing. You don't have to have any special skill. You don't have to be a doctor. You don't have to be a nurse. You just have to be available for the Lord to use. Our team was certainly changed, and, more importantly, two Ladakhi translators and maybe many more children were changed. The depth of Tsering's and Dorjay's commitment is clear. After this trekking season they will live with a missionary family for two months and then go to seminary for six months. How excited we are to have two seminary-trained Ladakhi translators for next summer's work. Pray that their hunger to know the Lord will continue and that needed support for this work will be provided. This could be the key to open up this population of four million people who have been relatively unreached by the gospel.

Kevin Howard, M.D.
Eden, North Carolina

Medicines In Ukraine Continue To Be A Need

The Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, in association with the North Carolina Baptist Medical/Dental Fellowship of N.C. Baptist Men, entered into a formal agreement with the Baptist Union of Ukraine to supply medications to the country and people of Ukraine.

An agreement has been worked out with the Missionary Assistance Program (MAP) which has 40 years of experience in sending medications to mission hospitals around the world. We will be able to purchase medications at close to a 50 to 1 purchase advantage, that is, for every dollar we will be given 50 dollars of wholesale medications. Further, MAP packages these and will ship these medicines free from their MAP headquarters in Georgia to Kiev, Ukraine.

We encourage your churches to immediately begin a fundraising drive to raise money whether it be $100, $500, $1000, or whatever amount. Contributions are needed because currently Ukraine can manufacture no medications in the country and, secondly, they are unable to purchase medications with their own currency. As soon as you have money for this endeavor, please send it to N.C. Baptist Men, PO Box 1107, Cary, N.C. 27512-1107.

To date, two million dollars worth of medicines have already been shipped. We are excited for you to participate in this endeavor as we supply assistance to the people of Ukraine!

For more information, check the appropriate item on the back page.

Ron Halbrooks
State Medical Missions Coordinator
5419 Highland drive
Durham, N.C. 27712
(919) 383-5757

SPORTS IN MISSIONS

'96 Soccer Team Takes First-Ever Trip To Comoros Islands

In June our Challenger Soccer Team, under the direction of Coaches Rich Erdman and Bruce Wolfe, teamed up with the International Sports Federation missionary and brought North Carolina Baptist soccer to this Indian Ocean island country. What a special trip as these young people introduced Christ to this predominantly Islamic nation while playing against several teams. The players had the unique opportunity to meet government dignitaries and the first-ever Olympic team (track & field) from the country.

This summer's soccer team members were: Matthew Carroll, Lillington; David Coker, Burlington; Brady Dennis, Hickory; Jonathan Duke, Fuquay-Varina; William Edwards, Mocksville; Skip Erdman, Mt. Ulla; Rich Erdman, Mt. Ulla; William D. Hunt, Hickory; James Kaylor, Indian Trail; Robbie Kaylor, Inbdian Trail; Michael Kimmer, New London; Christopher Underwood, Monroe; Alexander Whitley, Salisbury; and Bruce Wolfe, Hickory.

N.C. Challenger Basketbell Team Traveled To St. Lucia, West Indies

July 20th found our 1996 Challenger Basketball team on a return trip to St. Lucia. We were hosted by Southern Baptist missionaries Lee and Deb Miller in Viex Fort at the southern end of this small West Indies island for a week of clinics and games.

This year's team, under the direction of Gary and Lisa Bowne, included Cliff Brown, Rocky Mount; Andrew Huss, Cleveland; Jerry Aldridge, Maiden; Jeff Reilly, Rutherford; Steve Martin, Conover; Brett Snotherly, Asheboro; Skip Erdman, Mt. Ulla; Nate Hoffman, Hickory; and Davis Garrett, and Harrison Bowne, Hickory.

Our purpose was to use the clinics and games to build relationships and plant seeds with the children, youth, and adults—not only those involved in the games but the spectators as well. Our schedule included five clinics and five games in the eight day trip.

Wilmington Basketball Clinic Held

Johnny Childers headed up our return to Wilmington the last week of June. Johnny used his Royal Ambassador leadership and middle school coaching experience to show the young people how sports and Christ go hand in hand.

Gary Bowne
State Sports in Missions Coordinator
237 32nd Avenue, NW
Hickory, N.C. 28601
(704) 327-6282

International Baptist Seminary Graduates First Class

The International Baptist Theological Seminary (IBTS), previously known as "Ruschlikon," graduated its first class in Prague, Czech Republic. The first class graduated June 7, 1996, with students from Romania, Italy, Kenya, and Russia. The beautiful 15-acre site is located in Sector 6 (northern) part of Prague. The 15 buildings are scheduled to be completed in November of this year. We will schedule volunteers to go over from May through September of 1997 to do landscaping and maintenance. Give Sandy Smith a call at (800) 395–5102 or (919) 467–5100, ext. 322 if you want to be a part of the summer maintenance work

N.C. Baptist Men have been privileged to be a part of the renovation of the new campus. We have been the coordinating agency for all U.S. volunteers (more than 1200 through October of 1996 with more than 300 coming from N.C.) In addition, more than 200 European volunteers have been on site and worked with our U.S. volunteers.

I want to personally thank each volunteer who has been a part of the building of God's kingdom. Graduates of IBTS will go back to their country to "make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit" (Matthew 28:19). Your work at IBTS will touch the lives of many people around the world! Thank you!

You will have the opportunity to go back to Prague to be a part of the opening ceremony, April 18–20, 1997. There are two tours planned and both will be promoted by N.C. Baptist Men. The first tour will be led by Maurice Cook leaving April 9 and returning April 21; and the second, led by Vic Varner, will leave the U.S. April 16 and return April 26. For more information, call the Baptist Men's Office at (800) 395–5102 or (919) 467–5100, ext. 322.

Thank You Letter Received From Ukraine

To the North Carolina and Ukraine Partnership from the Church of the village Shoulyaky, Chercassykaya region, Ukraine.

Let peace be upon you, our dear Brothers and Sisters of North Carolina. Our small church of the village Shoulyaka, Ukraine, is greeting all of you, your pastors, and your churches. We are thankful to God and to you personally for the great help which is given to us in the construction of our house of prayer. We prayed to God a lot about this. And now we have received God's answer. All our church and I myself as a pastor of church in Shoulyaky give thanks to God for you. We are grateful to God for our Brothers in Christ, Gene Kirby (N.C. coordinator) and Barney Barnett. The ten days which Barney Barnett spent here have passed away very quickly, as one day. Being at the age of 73 he did not leave God's work, service to God. He worked by shovel, carried wheelbarrow with gravel, unloaded brick from the truck, and did other works together with us. We worked together, rejoiced together, prayed together, gave praise to God together. Let God Bless all of you. We believe that you will not leave us privately with our problems. And that you will help us to finish the work which is started. We pray to God for you and for the work which is started. Accept the verse from the Bible: Hebrews 6: 10–12.

"For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labor of love, which ye have showed toward His name, in that ye have ministered to the saints and do minister. And we desire that every one of you do show the same diligence to the full assurance of hope unto the end. That ye be not slothful, but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises."

With much respect and love,
Pastor of the church in Shoulyaky Kolomyets,
Mikola Ivanovich Kolomyets

Albania Sewer, Road Project Needs Help In Bregu-I-Lumit

Albania is a country that, until recently, bragged about being the most atheistic country in the world. Its communist dictator, Enver Hoxha, closed the country to all outside influences including, of course, the religious community. In 1992, the Democratic Party overthrew the Communist government. Now we have missionaries including British Baptist, Canadian Baptist, and Southern Baptist, both Foreign Mission Board and Global missionaries. The people are open to the gospel. Bregu-I-Lumit is a small village (approximately 10,000 people), located just outside of Tirana, the capital of Albania. Most of the village's residential area does not have access to the main sewer lines. The septic tanks are overflowing, creating many health problems. Ryder Rogers, a Canadian Baptist, is starting a church in the village and has asked for help from N.C. Baptists to install sewer lines in a residental street to connect to the main sewer. The Mission Committee of Albania has approved the project. It will take about $25,000 to $30,000 to do the work. There is an opportunity for two or three volunteers who have experience with backhoes and installing pipe lines to go to Albania to assist in the project. If you can help in any way, call Sandy Smith in the Baptist Men's Office (800) 395–5102, ext. 322. The need is great for this unique project.

Children playing in street contaminated with sewer.

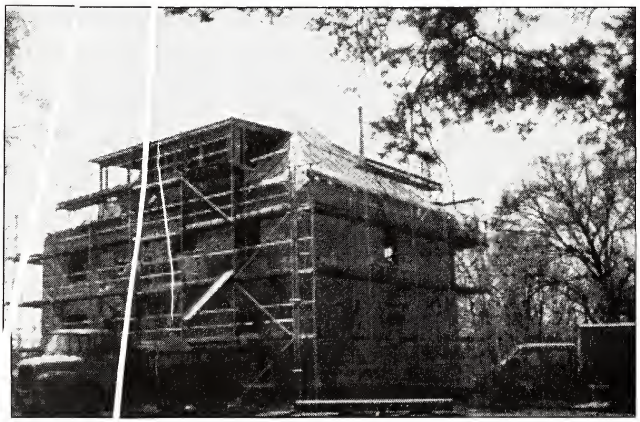
Germany Baptist Union Seminary Requests Volunteers

N.C. Baptist Men have been asked to coordinate the recruiting and sending of U.S. volunteers to Elstal, Germany, near Berlin, to assist in the renovation of 19 buildings that will house the seminary students. The project will be similar to the IBTS (Prague) project. We will be working with contractors from Germany, Moldova, and Ukraine. Housing will be on site, including a full kitchen where volunteers will cook their own meals. Wendel and Martha Sloan from the Charlotte area will be host and hostess living on site for approximately 18 to 24 months beginning October 1996. Each team will have 10 volunteers, including two cooks/housekeepers. The cost will be $1000 to $1200 depending on the season of the year.

This will be another opportunity for volunteers from N.C. to be a part of church awakening in Eastern Europe. The site is located in what was East Germany, the site of the 1936 Olympic Games.

If you want to be a part of this effort, give Sandy Smith a call at the Baptist Men's Office (800) 395–5102 or (919) 467–5100, ext. 322.

Robert Mizelle
State Overseas Missions Coordinator
1626 US 13 North
Windsor, N.C. 27983
(919) 794–3759



One of the many buildings to be renovated.

"See Baptist College Days" Coming This Fall and Winter

Several college campuses across the state will host "See Baptist College Days" in upcoming months. This is an excellent opportunity for RA, Challengers, or other church youth groups to tour local Baptist college campuses, enjoy a program and lunch, and see an exciting college ballgame.

September 21 — Wingate University vs. Newberry College (Youth Day): Program 3:00 p.m.; Supper; Football game 7:00p.m.. Cost is $6 per person. Contact Anne Lida (704) 233–8026.

October 19 — Gardner-Webb University vs. Catawba College (Youth Jamboree): Program 4:30p.m.; Supper; Football Game 7:00p.m. Cost is $9.50 per person. Contact Brant Reezes (704) 434–4492.

February 15 — Wingate University vs. Carson Newman: Registration 11:00 a.m.; Lunch; Basketball game 2:00 p.m. Cost is $6 per person. Contact Anne Lida 704/233–8026.

February 22 — Gardner-Webb University vs. Wingate University (RA Day): Program 3:00 p.m.; Supper; Women's Basketball game 5:45; Men's game will follow. Cost is $9.50 per person. Contact Brant Reezes (704) 434–4492.

Trippin' Out

December 6–8, 1996

Ridgecrest Conference Center

Acteens, Challengers, Youth Groups, Youth Leadership

Registration Opens September 1

• Drama • Music • Children • Recreation • Construction • Witnessing • Sports Evangelism • World Changers • Much More!

SALT, North Carolina ····· Sam Davis, Georgia ····· Face to Face, Alabama

Bring items for mission projects to trim the tree.

Registration infarmatian has been mailed ta all Acteens, and Challengers leaders and Yauth Ministers.

Registration forms may be obtained from Jimmy Huffman, ext 342.

Reservatians far Trippin' Out will be accepted at the Ridgecrest Canference Center an a **first come, first served basis. Registration will open with forms postmarked September 1, 1996.** When the raams have filled, yau will be placed on a waiting list.

Ratia: There must be ane adult female far every five ar less females and ane adult male far every five ar less males. The adults must stay with the yauth they are spansaring.

COST

On Campus: Twa nights lading, Sat. breakfast thraugh Sunday breakfast

$85.00 per persan — two per roam
$75.50 per persan — three per raam
$71.00 per persan — faur per raam

Off campus:

$25.00 per persan — Fri., Sat., and Sun.
$24.00 Meal ticket (per persan — all faur meals)

North Carolina Woman's Missionary Union and Baptist Men are co-sponsoring the youth missions event of the year. Trippin' Out is a weekend of training, planning, and preparing to go on mission, both locally and globally.

Challengers Leadership Lab At Camp Caraway, Oct. 12–13

NCBM will be offering an experience of leadership development on October 12–13, 1996. This weekend will be for both Challengers and their leaders. This will be a lab, meaning that leadership will be addressed through practical application involving adventure recreation games, ropes course, and small group discussion. Also, the Challengers program will be looked at as a means of leadership development. The lab will start with lunch on Saturday and conclude after breakfast Sunday. The cost will be $25 per person. A few leaders are born, but for most it is a learned ability. Challengers Leadership Lab will help teach and develop Christian leaders.

For more information or to register, check the appropriate item on the back page.

Campcraft Offers Chance To Learn New Skills

N.C. Baptist Men provides an opportunity for adults to learn new camping skills through Adult Campcraft Training. The training covers such areas as firecraft, ropecraft, equipment, map and compass, conservation, and more. October 18–20 at the Camp Caraway Family Campground near Asheboro is the next training session.

Cost is$35 per person which includes food, instruction and your campsite fee. Participants must bring their own tent, sleeping bag, and equipment. The training begins at 6:00 p.m. on Friday and concludes at noon on Sunday.

Participants learn new camping skills as well as enjoy the fellowship of other RA leaders. The skills learned can be utilized for personal development as well as to lead local RA and Challengers groups in successful, safe, and meaningful camping experiences. The Campcraft training includes three levels of instruction: basic, advanced, and instructor.

For more information or registration check the appropriate item on the back page.

Celebrate New Year's Holiday In Brazil

The annual Overseas Christmas Missions Trip for young men in the 10th through 12th grades has been set. The trip this year will be to Sao Paulo, Brazil, to help build a church. The dates of the trip are December 25 (late evening) through January 2, 1997. The cost is $1500, which covers all expenses except your passport and personal spending money for souvenirs, etc.

The trip will be limited to 10 young men and two leaders. The deadline to register is November 10. This will be a trip of a lifetime! There is no better way to bring in a new year than doing missions.

To receive additional information and an application, check the appropriate item on the back page.

Lad/Crusader Counselor Training Available At Camp Caraway

Both methods of doing RA's (EZRA and Classic RA's), will be offered as training options for Lad/Crusader counselors October 11–12 beginning with Friday supper and going through Saturday lunch at Camp Caraway boys' camp .

There will also be sessions on planning, missions projects, interest activities, advancement, etc.

The cost is $25 per person.

For more information or to register, check the appropriate item on the back page.

NORTH CAROLINA RA HOME PAGE ADDRESS
URL:http://users.aol.com/kenhall102/private/ra1.htm

Mission Kids New Coed Program

Mission Kids is a new program designed to meet the needs of churches seeking to do coed missions education for children in grades 1–6. Mission Kids is not designed to take the place of Royal Ambassadors or Girls in Action. Rather, it is designed mainly for small churches with limited leadership and budget who do not have an RA or GA program.

Mission Kids is unique in that it gives children an opportunity to learn about missions from children whose parents are Southern Baptist missionaries. Curriculum consists of a leader's book, which includes all session plans for the entire year, a training section for leaders, and a planning/record keeping section. Individual activity books for each grade are also available.

For more information on this new coed program, check the appropriate box on the back page.

Discover Your Treasure At N.C. Baptist Assembly (Caswell)

Treasures abound at these retreats for fathers with children in first through fifth grades at N.C. Baptist Assembly (Caswell). The father/daughter retreat takes place September 27–28, and the father/son retreat takes place November 1-2. Cost is $25 per person and includes meals and lodging. Dads will discover how to unearth the "diamond in the rough" that is hidden under every youngster's exterior. Boys and girls will learn how to treasure the things in life that are truly valuable—family, friends, and faith. Both dads and their children will enjoy time together fishing, playing basketball, tennis, or just hanging out. Everyone will enjoy large group activities that include a bonfire on the beach and a treasure hunt.

For more information, call the N.C. Baptist Assembly (Caswell) at (910) 278–9501.

Father/daughter and father/son retreats to be held.

RA's Raise Money For Missions

Winners of Race for Missions at Greenwood Forest Church, Cary. (Left to right: Brandon White, Zach Tysinger, Bryan Turner, and Steven Jones.) Greenwood Forest RA's raised $555 for Albania mission projects and $625 for mission needs in Prague.

Plan To Attend Statewide Lad/Crusader Camporee

Camp Caraway Family Campground, Asheboro will be the site for the third annual Lad/Crusader Camporee. This year's event takes place September 20–21. All boys in grades 1–6, whether an RA or not, are encouraged to attend. Check-in and camp set-up will be between 5:00 and 7:00 p.m. Friday night. Friday night's highlight is a bonfire program, which includes singing and story telling. Saturday, boys participate in Campcraft instruction classes and fun field day events for ribbons. The Camporee ends around 4:00 p.m. on Saturday afternoon.

The Camporee provides an opportunity for boys to camp, work on Campcraft skills and advancement, and participate in fun activities with other boys from across the state.

Cost is only $3.50 per person and includes campground fee and program fee. Each group must bring their own food and camping equipment. Registration for this event is limited and must be in by September 15.

For more information or registration, please check the appropriate item on the back page.

CHECK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION & REGISTRATION

Fall 1996, For additional information and registration, check the appropriate block and mail this back page (with the label) to: North Carolina Baptist Men, P.O. Box 1107, Cary, NC 27512–1107

TO RECEIVE MORE INFORMATION

- ❑ Minister Back To Ministers (p. 5)
- ❑ ETC Is A Valuable Training Opportunity (p. 5)
- ❑ See Wake Forest University Day (p. 7)

NCBM Hats @ $7 (p. 8)

❑ Black	*Quantity*____ = Total	$____
❑ Teal	*Quantity*____ = Total	$____
❑ Forest Green	*Quantity*____ = Total	$____
❑ Burgundy	*Quantity*____ = Total	$____
	+ Shipping/handling	*$ 2.00*
	Grand Total	$____

NCBM T-shirts @ $6 (p. 8) — Color: Camel/White

❑ Adult large	*Quantity*____ = Total	$____
❑ Adult X-large	*Quantity*____ = Total	$____
❑ Adult XX-large	*Quantity*____ = Total	$____
	+ Shipping/handling	*$ 2.00*
	Grand Total	$____

RA T-shirts @ $6 (p. 8) — Color: Light Blue

❑ Boys 14-16	*Quantity*____ = Total	$____
❑ Adult small	*Quantity*____ = Total	$____
❑ Adult medium	*Quantity*____ = Total	$____
❑ Adult large	*Quantity*____ = Total	$____
❑ Adult X-large	*Quantity*____ = Total	$____
	+ Shipping/handling	*$ 2.00*
	Grand Total	$____

Challengers T-shirts @ $6 (p. 8) — Color: Ashe

❑ Adult Medium	*Quantity*____ = Total	$____
❑ Adult large	*Quantity*____ = Total	$____
❑ Adult X-large	*Quantity*____ = Total	$____
❑ Adult XX-large	*Quantity*____ = Total	$____
	+ Shipping/handling	*$ 2.00*
	Grand Total	$____

- ❑ Why Do I Witness (p. 11)
- ❑ Blessing Received (p. 13)
- ❑ Medicines in Ukraine (p. 18)
- ❑ Challengers Leadership Lab at Camp Caraway (p. 22)
- ❑ Campcraft Offers Chance To Learn New Skills (p. 22)
- ❑ Celebrate New Year's Holiday In Brazil (p. 22)
  # ____ of applications needed
- ❑ Lad/Crusader Counselor Training (p. 22)
- ❑ Mission Kids New Coed Program (p. 22)
- ❑ Plan To Attend Statewide Lad/Crusader Camporee (p. 23)

TO REGISTER FOR CONFERENCES

- ❑ Challengers Leadership at Camp Caraway, Oct. 12–13. Cost: $25/person
  #____ persons attending @ $25 = Total $____
- ❑ Campcraft Offers Chance To Learn New Skills, Oct. 18–20, Camp Caraway Family Campground, Asheboro. Cost $35/person (includes food, instruction, campsite fee) Bring tent, sleeping bag, & equipment.
  #____ persons attending @ $35 = Total $____
- ❑ Lad/Crusader Counselor Training Available, Camp Caraway, Oct. 11–12. Cost $25/person.
  #____ persons attending @ $25 = Total $____
- ❑ Statewide Lad/Crusader Camporee, Camp Caraway Family Campground, Asheboro. Sept. 20–21. Cost $3.50/person (includes campground fee & program fee). Must bring your own food, camping equipment. Registration is limited and must be in by Sept. 15.
  #____ persons attending @ $3.50 = Total $____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: Office _____ Home _____

Church _____ Association _____

Leadership Position _____

Registration Fee (if applicable) $ _____ Number in group (if applicable) _____

(Make checks payable to North Carolina Baptist Men.)

Are you getting 'too many' copies of this newsletter? If you are getting multiple copies of this newsletter, please return this back page (with label), from each newsletter you received. Thanks!

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